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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Peter R. REEVES et al

CPA of

Appln. No.: 09/423,093

Group Art Unit: 1655

Filed: November 1, 1999

Examiner: Sisson, B.

For: NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES SPECIFIC FOR BACTERIAL ANTIGENS AND USES THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-identified application, please amend the application as follow:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-15 and 32-84.

Please add the following new claims:

- -- Claim 85. A method of testing a sample for the presence of E. coli expressing the bacterial polysaccharide O-antigen serotype 0111, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing genomic DNA of a sample to be tested;
 - (b) providing at least one oligonucleotide molecule, wherein said oligonucleotide molecule is at least 10 nucleotides in length and specifically